



Corona Fire Department

Open Burning, Portable Outdoor Fireplaces and Recreational Fires Guideline

PURPOSE

The intent of this guideline is to provide the minimum standards necessary to meet the safety requirements when using portable outdoor fireplaces and recreational fires such as pit barbeques, in addition to the requirements for open burning. The requirements are prescribed in 2016 California Fire Code, the Public Resources Code and the Health and Safety Code.

SCOPE

This guideline applies to open burning, recreational fires and portable outdoor fireplaces. Permits are not required to conduct open burning in portable outdoor fireplaces or recreational fires. Open burning is also regulated by the Southern California Air Quality Management District (AQMD), and subject to a permit from AQMD. Applicants requesting a permit for grove maintenance shall also be subject to the requirements of the Public Resources Code.

REQUIREMENTS

A. Open Burning

1. The Corona Fire Department shall be contacted prior to commencement of open burning. Evidence of a permit issued by AQMD shall be provided at the time of Fire Department permit application. A permit from the Corona Fire Department is required for any open burning in the City of Corona, in accordance with CFC 307.2.
2. Open burning shall only be permitted when the time and atmospheric conditions comply with the limits set forth in the open-burning permit, per CFC 307.1.1. The Fire Department shall be contacted prior to ignition of materials; applicant shall verify whether or not burning is permitted at that specific day and time.
3. Burning may be required to be immediately discontinued if the Chief determines that it contributes to a hazardous situation, or a permit for open burning has not been obtained, per CFC 307.3.
4. Open burning and bonfires shall not be conducted within 50' of a structure and provisions shall be made to prevent the fire from spreading to within 50' of any structure, per CFC 307.4.
5. Open burning of rubbish containing paper products is prohibited.

B. Recreational Fires

1. A recreational fire where the pile size is 3' or less in diameter and 2' or less in height shall not be conducted within 25' of a structure or combustible material, per CFC 202, 307.4.2.

2. A minimum of one portable fire extinguisher with a minimum rating of 4-A or other approved on-site fire extinguishing equipment shall be available for immediate use, per CFC 307.5.

C. Portable Outdoor Fireplaces

1. Portable outdoor fireplaces shall be used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and shall not be operated within 15' of a structure or combustible material, per CFC 202, 307.4.3.

Exception: Portable outdoor fireplaces used at one and two family dwellings.

2. Portable outdoor fireplaces shall be constructed of concrete or approved noncombustible materials, per CFC 307.4.3.
3. Portable fire extinguishers shall be provided for portable outdoor fireplaces, per CFC 307.5.

D. General Requirements

1. A minimum of one portable fire extinguisher with a minimum rating of 4-A or other approved on-site fire extinguishing equipment shall be available for immediate use, per CFC 307.5, or,
2. A garden hose connected to a water supply or other approved fire-extinguishing equipment shall be readily available for use at open burning sites, per CFC 307.5.
3. Open burning, bonfires, recreational fires and the use of outdoor portable fireplaces shall be constantly attended by a person who is able to use fire-extinguishing equipment and is familiar with the permit conditions. The burning material shall be attended until it has been extinguished, per CFC 307.5

A COMPARISON OF OPEN BURNING VS RECREATIONAL FIRES IS INCLUDED ON THE NEXT PAGE.

Recreational Fires vs. Open Burning

<p>CFC (101.2) Scope. <i>Includes... the hazard of fire and explosion arising from storage, handling or use of structures, materials or devices...conditions hazardous to life, property or public welfare...</i></p>	
<p>CFC (104.3) Right of Entry. <i>Includes... Whenever the fire code official has reasonable cause to believe that conditions or violations exist which make the building or premises unsafe, dangerous or hazardous, the code official shall have the authority to enter the building or premises at all reasonable times. Credentials shall be presented and entry shall be requested, when the building or premises are occupied. If unoccupied, reasonable effort shall be made to attempt to locate the owner or person with control.</i></p>	
<p>CFC (104.11.2) Obstructing operations. <i>Includes... No person shall obstruct... or disobey any lawful command of the fire officer in charge of the emergency, or any part thereof, or any lawful order of a police officer assisting the fire department.</i></p>	
<p>Portable Outdoor Fireplace. (CFC 202) A portable, outdoor, solid-fuel-burning fireplace that may be constructed of steel, concrete, or other noncombustible material. A portable outdoor fireplace may be open in design, or may be equipped with a small hearth opening and short chimney opening in the top.</p>	<p>Open Burning. (CFC 202) The burning of materials wherein products of combustion are emitted directly into ambient air without passing through a stack or chimney from an enclosed chamber. Open burning does not include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Road flares Smudgepots Similar devices associated with safety or occupational uses typically considered open flames or recreational fires or portable outdoor fireplaces. <p>For this definition, a chamber shall be regarded as enclosed, when, during the time combustion occurs, only apertures, ducts, stacks, flues or chimneys necessary to provide combustion air and permit the escape of exhaust gas are open.</p>
<p>Recreational Fire. (CFC 202) An outdoor fire burning materials other than rubbish where the fuel being burned is not contained in an incinerator, outdoor fireplace, barbeque grill or barbeque pit and has a total fuel area of 3' or less in diameter and 2' or less in height for pleasure, religious, ceremonial, cooking, warming or similar purposes.</p>	<p>Open burning shall not be less than 50' from any structure.</p>
<p>Bonfire. A bonfire is an outdoor fire for <i>ceremonial</i> purposes. (CFC 202)</p>	<p>Open burning is governed by AQMD Rule 444; a burn permit will generally be required.</p>
	<p>Open burning in accordance with AQMD Rule 444 may be approved for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (A) Agricultural burning (B) Prescribed burning (C) Disposal of Russian thistle (D) Abatement of a fire hazard that a fire protection agency determines cannot be abated by an economically, ecologically and logistically viable option
	<p>Open burning in accordance with AQMD Rule 444 is prohibited for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (A) Residential burning (B) Disposal of waste